

California Legislature

Friday, January 14, 2005

Hon. Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor
State of California
Sacramento, California

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

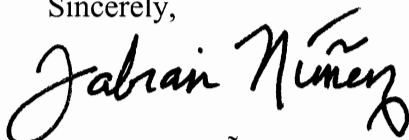
As we continue to work with you to bridge the \$9 billion budget shortfall, we look forward to teaming with you to secure California's fair share of federal funding.

California receives a mere 77 cents in federal spending, programs and employment for every \$1 our citizens pay in federal taxes. We must do better. We also believe that we should not be forced to reduce vital services for senior citizens, limit funding for our children's education, and delay construction of badly needed transportation projects, when there is a source of funding that we could work to tap.

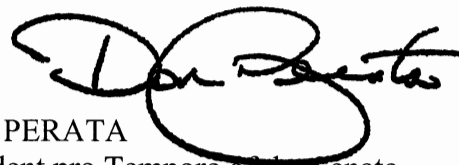
We should adopt a two-pronged approach -- focusing on the Bush Administration, which could make administrative decisions to relieve us of existing burdens and provide additional funding, and Congress, which holds the purse strings. As you know, we are fortunate to have in our Congressional Delegation the chairs of six House Committees, including Appropriations, Ways and Means and Rules. Representative Lofgren, chair of California Democratic Congressional Delegation, and her colleagues have offered to help you and have sent you letters suggesting avenues to explore, that might be paved in gold for California. We hope that you will work with Representative Lofgren and her colleagues and that you will secure the assistance of your fellow partisans, who literally control the process and purse strings in this Congress.

Thank you for your leadership on these issues. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



FABIAN NUÑEZ
Speaker of the Assembly



DON PERATA
President pro Tempore of the Senate

